IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Mario MEGGIOLAN

Appln. No.: Not yet assigned Attorney Docket Q68505

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: February 13, 2002 Examiner: Not yet assigned

or: METHOD FOR PRODUCING A CONNECTOR ELEMENT FOR CONNECTING

FRAME PARTS AT A JOINT LOCATION IN A BICYCLE FRAMEWORK AND

CONNECTOR ELEMENT OBTAINED HEREBY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, delete the heading "<u>DESCRIPTION</u>" and insert the heading

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 2, before the first paragraph insert the heading

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 6, before the first full paragraph insert the heading

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 7, before the first full paragraph insert the heading

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

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Preliminary Amendment Attorney Docket Q68505

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please delete the heading "CLAIMS" and insert the heading

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

- 30. (Amended) Method according to claim 1 wherein said mould and said core are shaped and arranged in order to produce a connector element defining a bicycle bottom bracket with associated tubular extensions for connection to bicycle frame tubes converging towards the bottom bracket.
- 31. (Amended) Method according to claim 1, wherein mould and said core are shaped and arranged in order to produce a connector element for connection of bicycle frame tubes at any of the joint locations of a bicycle frame where the frame tubes converge towards each other.
- 32. (Amended) Connector element for connecting frame parts at a joint location in a bicycle framework, wherein it is obtained with a method according to claim 1.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the improper second paragraph of the Abstract containing the parenthetical phrase "(Figure 3)".

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REMARKS

The application has been amended to delete the multiple dependencies therein, to provide appropriate headings for the various sections of the specification, and to delete the erroneous improper second paragraph of the abstract. Entry and consideration of this Amendment and an early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 22,775

Robert V. Sloan

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20037-3213

Telephone: (202) 293-7060 Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

Date: February 13, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification is changed as follows:

Page 1, delete the heading "<u>DESCRIPTION</u>" and insert the heading

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 2, before the first paragraph insert the heading

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Page 6, before the first full paragraph insert the heading

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Page 7, before the first full paragraph insert the heading

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Delete the heading "CLAIMS" and insert the heading

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

The claims are amended as follows:

30. (Amended) Method according to any-of-the previous claims 1 wherein said mould and said core are shaped and arranged in order to produce a connector element defining a bicycle bottom bracket with associated tubular extensions for connection to bicycle frame tubes converging towards the bottom bracket.

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- 31. (Amended) Method according to any of claims 1–29, wherein mould and said core are shaped and arranged in order to produce a connector element for connection of bicycle frame tubes at any of the joint locations of a bicycle frame where the frame tubes converge towards each other.
- 32. (Amended) Connector element for connecting frame parts at a joint location in a bicycle framework, wherein it is obtained with a method according to any previous claims 1.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE:

Delete the improper second paragraph of the Abstract containing the parenthetical phrase "(Figure 3)".